



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Alaska District

# Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch (1145b)  
Post Office Box 6898  
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-6898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: 28 February 2003

EXPIRATION DATE: 31 March 2003

REFERENCE NUMBER: 4-2003-0121

WATERWAY NUMBER: Sawyer Creek 1

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

**APPLICANT:** Talkeetna Blueberry Sanctuary, Post Office Box 722, Talkeetna Alaska 99676, contact person is Mr. Gary Lawley.

**LOCATION:** The proposed project is located within section 23, T. 24 N., R. 4 W Seward Meridian near Talkeetna, Alaska. Longitude 149-56, Latitude 62-09

**WORK:** place approximately 800 cubic yards of clean fill into approximately 5,400 square feet of palustrine wetlands.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the work is to construct a road through 300' of wetlands to access a 240-acre parcel of land.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** The proposed road is to be constructed at the narrowest possible crossing point of the wetlands. The new road will cross two small streams; these stream-crossings will have 24" culverts.

**MITIGATION** Mitigation has not yet been agreed upon

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:** A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

**COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT CERTIFICATION:** Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone, Management Act of 1972, as amended by 16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3), requires the applicant to certify that the described activity affecting land or water uses in the Coastal Zone complies with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. A permit will not be issued until the Office of Management and Budget, Division of Governmental Coordination has concurred with the applicant's certification.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES:** The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no listed or eligible properties in the vicinity of the worksite. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES** No threatened or endangered species are known to use the project area

Preliminarily, the described activity will not affect threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat designated as endangered or threatened, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

**ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:** The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 (MSFCMA), 16 U.S.C. et seq and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

We have determined that the described activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

**SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION** None

**EVALUATION:** The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all those factors, which become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national

concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Mr. Skip Joy at (907) 753-2712 or toll free in Alaska at (800) 478-2712, if further information is desired concerning this notice.

**AUTHORITY:** This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities:

((X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States - Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

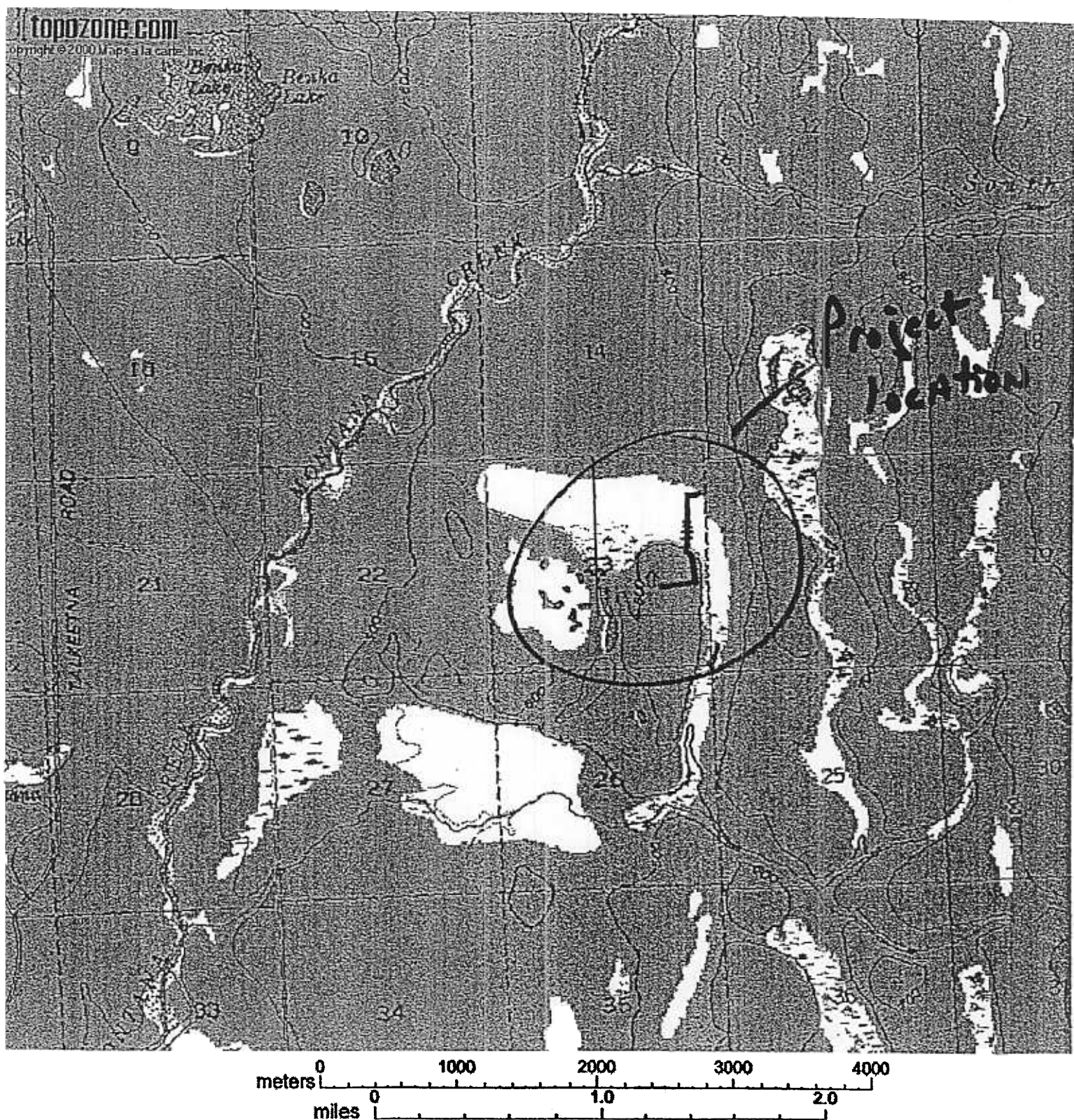
A plan, Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program, and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

District Engineer  
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Attachments



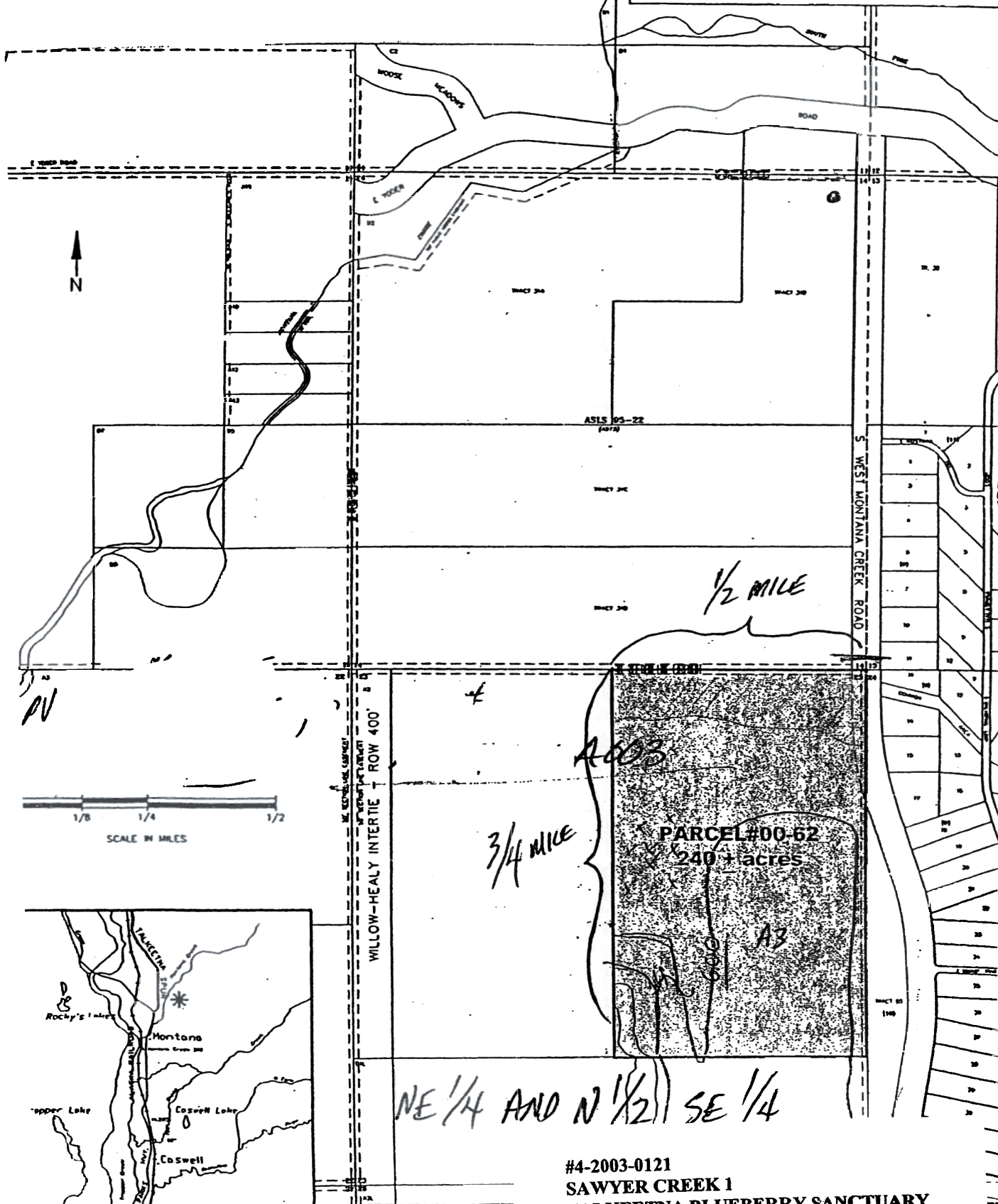
Target is 62° 09' 21"N, 149° 57' 15"W - TALKEETNA MOUNTAINS A-6 quad [[Quad Info](#)]





## ALASKA

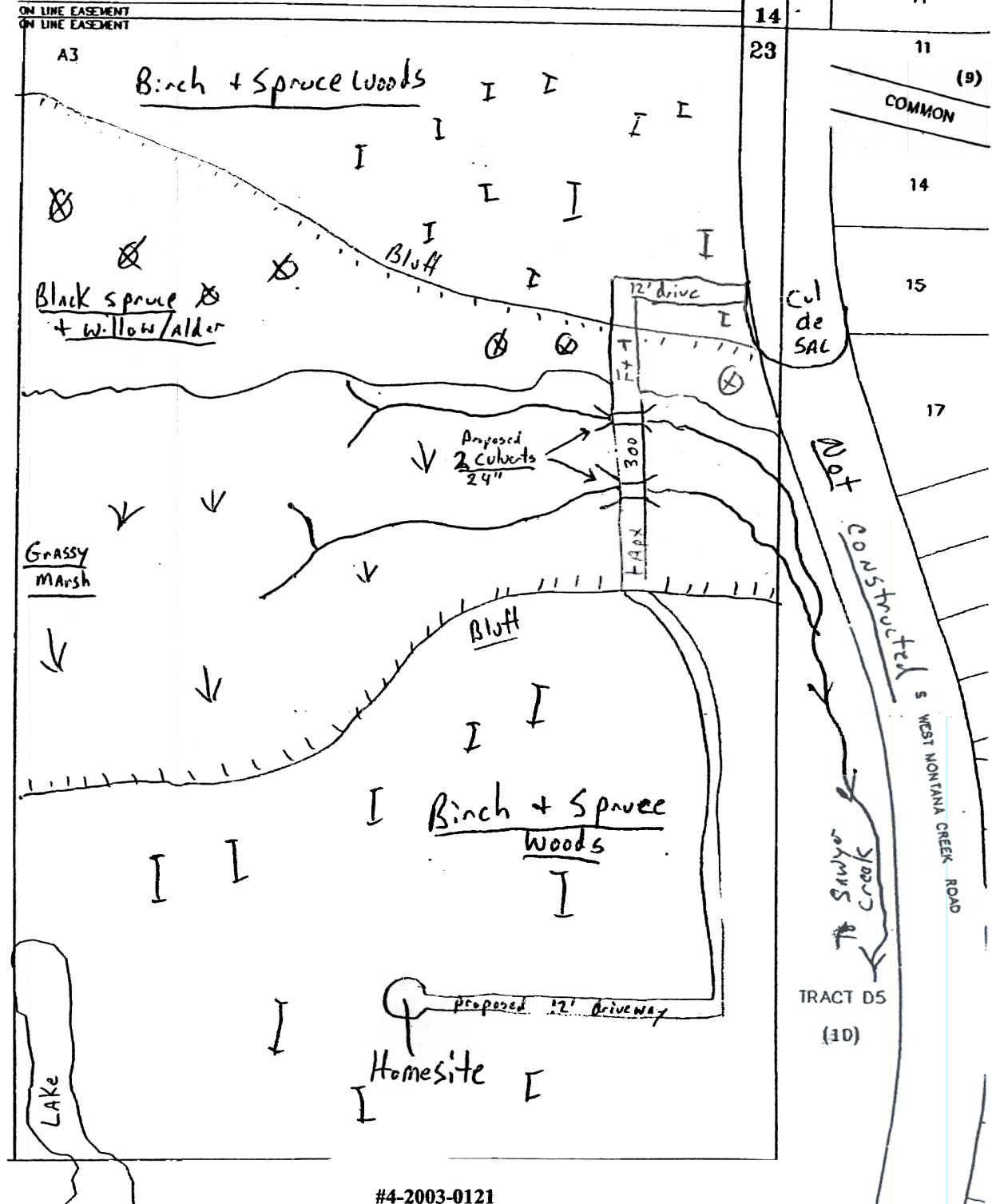
**Sec. 23, T24N, R4W**



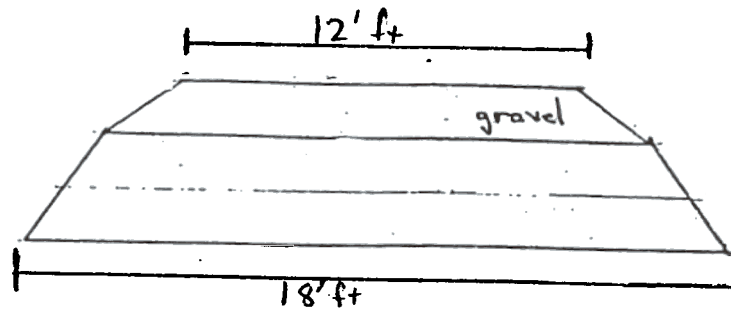
**#4-2003-0121  
SAWYER CREEK 1  
TALKEETNA BLUEBERRY SANCTUARY  
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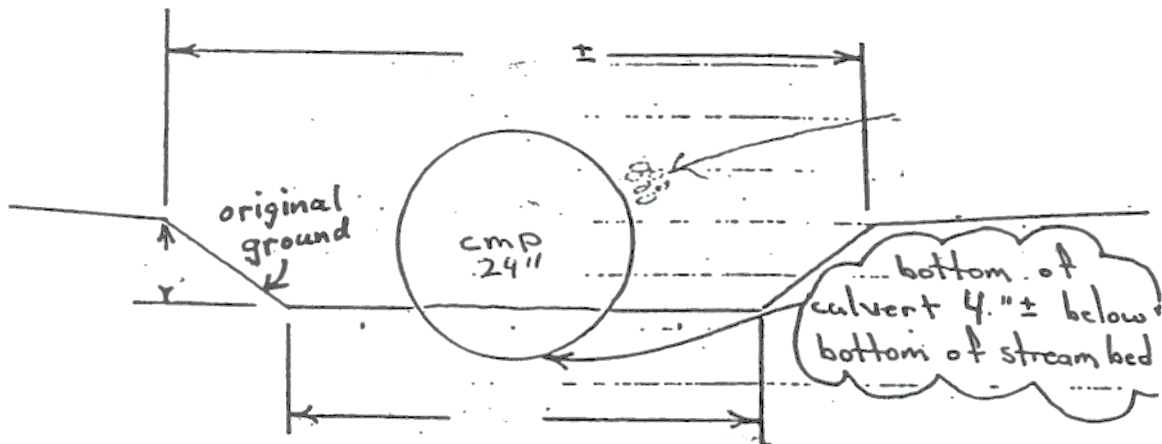
- Project proposes to construct ~0.5 miles of driveway from the end of West Montana Crk Road on private property to homestead atop prominent bluff on S end of property.
- Asking for permit to construct driveway across Apx. 300' of wetlands and install culverts in two ~0.5 meter unnamed creeks.
- ADF+G will not require permit, no fish.



Typical Road Cross Section  
not to scale



Stream Cross Section and Culvert Placement



note: grade of culvert to be 0%

# STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

**DIVISION OF AIR AND WATER QUALITY**

Non-Point Source Control Section

401 Certification Program

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
FOR  
STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION**

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. 4-2003-0121, Sawyer Creek 1, serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify that there is reasonable assurance that the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification may submit written comments within 30 days of the date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice to:

Department of Environmental Conservation  
WQM/401 Certification  
555 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2617  
Telephone: (907) 269-7564  
FAX: (907) 269-7508



# STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
DIVISION OF GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION**

**SOUTHCENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE**

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1660

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3568

PHONE: (907) 269-7470/FAX: (907) 269-3981

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
FOR  
CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE  
ALASKA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Notice is hereby given that a request is being filed with the Division of Governmental Coordination for a consistency determination, as provided in Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3)], that the project described in the Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. 4-2003-0121, Sawyer Creek 1, will comply with the Alaska Coastal Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program.

This project is being reviewed for consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. Written comments about the consistency of the project with the applicable ACMP statewide standards and district policies must be submitted to the Alaska Division of Governmental Coordination. For information about this consistency review, contact DGC at (907) 269-7470 or (907) 465-3562, or visit the DGC web site at <http://www.gov.state.ak.us/gdc/Projects/projects.html>.

Attachment 3